

# **Superintendent's Advisory Committee Public Schools Accountability Act of 1999**

**Department of Education  
721 Capitol Mall, Room 166 A/B  
Sacramento, CA 95814**

**May 16, 2001  
1:00 p.m.**

## **MEMBERS PRESENT**

General Davie, Jr., Co-chair, Superintendent, San Juan Unified School District  
Vickie Barber, El Dorado County Superintendent of Schools  
Tom Boysen, Senior Vice President, Education, Milken Family Foundation  
Marilyn Buchi, President, California School Boards Association  
Mary Alice Callahan, President, Morgan Hill Federation of Teachers  
Ana Bertha Castellanos, Vice President, State Parent Advisory Council  
Marc Ecker, Superintendent, Fountain Valley USD  
Brian Edwards, Office of the Secretary for Education  
Patsy Estrellas, Teacher, Norwalk La Mirada School District/California Teachers Association  
Jerry Hayward, Director, Policy Analysis for California Education  
Ed Haertel, Professor, Stanford University, School of Education  
Cecelia Mansfield, Vice President, California State PTA  
Lynette Nyaggah, Teacher, Rio Hondo College  
Ernesto Ruiz, Director, Migrant Education, Region 2, Butte County Office of Education  
Shelly Spiegel-Coleman, ESL Consultant, Los Angeles County Office of Education  
Rene Townsend, Professor/Consultant, CSU San Marcos College of Education  
Charles Weis, Ventura County Superintendent of Schools  
Lynn Wilen, Superintendent, Reef Sunset Unified School District

## **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Holly Covin, Co-chair; Assistant Executive Director, Policy Analysis & Research, CSBA  
Eva Baker, Director, Center for the Study of Evaluation, University of California at Los Angeles  
Rudy Castruita, San Diego County Superintendent of Schools  
Jere Jacobs, Former Assistant Vice President, Pacific Telesis  
Pam Kinsley, Teacher, Harding School  
Kelvin Lee, Superintendent, Dry Creek Joint Elementary School  
Jeannette Morgan, Director, Governmental Affairs, National Semiconductor  
Jeannie Oakes, Associate Dean, UCLA  
Scott Plotkin, Chief Consultant and Staff Director, Senate Education Committee  
Jai Sookprasert, CSEA  
Bernice Stafford, Vice President School of Marketing and Education, Lightspan, Inc.  
Ting Sun, Teacher, Natomas Charter School

Rosie Thompson, Business Unit Executive, IBM Global Education

#### STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION LIAISONS

Susan Hammer - Absent

#### PRINCIPAL STAFF TO THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

William Padia, Director, Policy and Evaluation Division

Wendy Harris, Director, Education Support and Networks Division

Pat McCabe, Manager, Education Planning and Information Center

Patrick Chladek, Manager, Awards Unit

Linda Carstens, Manager, Evaluation and Analysis Unit

Call to Order: Mr. Davie called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m.

#### Welcome and Introduction of New Members:

Mr. Davie welcomed all new and returning members and asked each member to introduce themselves and identify the group they represented. He reviewed the purple informational form and vendor information sheet and requested that all members complete both copies. He also requested members bring calendars to the next meeting to schedule subsequent meetings. California Department of Education (CDE) staff recommended quarterly meetings.

#### Oath of Office:

Paul Warren, Deputy Superintendent, Accountability Branch, administered the Oath of Office. He then gave thanks to all previous members returning for a second term. He stated that the Public Schools Accountability Act Advisory Committee produced exciting and important work. He hoped the new committee members would find the work as fun and engaging as the veteran members had in the past. He concluded his comments by stating, "The board has really appreciated the work of the veteran members, and we all wish to thank you for your past and future work."

#### English Language Development Test:

Ed Haertel reported the English Language Development (ELD) test is currently being developed and will be coming on line in 2002. He indicated that the discussion was for information only. He then reviewed the document, "The Incorporation of Results from the ELD into the Academic Performance Index (API): a Report of the Technical Design Group (TDG)." The report is a formal response to the committee's question: "How could results from the ELD Test be incorporated into the API?" After extensive discussion of this question, the TDG concluded that inclusion of the ELD exam would impact the validity of the API. The TDG stated that a major technical difficulty is based on the fact that the ELD exam is not a universal indicator. Not all students are required to take the ELD exam. Not all schools will have students that take the ELD exam. In addition, schools that administer the ELD test will have a wide distribution of participation rates, i.e., the percentages of students taking the exam.

Committee members were then asked to review the report, "Adding the ELD Test Results to the API" provided by Charles Weis. Mr. Weis summarized the report and stated that the ability to

demonstrate growth for students learning English via the Stanford 9 is limited. The report provided two models for including the ELD test in the API.

Conversation ensued regarding the inclusion of the ELD test as an indicator. Some members advocated that the test be included, others were more hesitant, repeating the dilemma of it not being universal.

The committee agreed to continue discussion of the ELD topic during the next scheduled meeting. A request was made that the TDG re-examine the work of the first two documents, and to discuss the feasibility of an ELD accountability system. Prior to the next meeting, committee members were asked to review both papers presented today, and make recommendations to the TDG for the July meeting.

#### Subcommittee Reports:

Vickie Barber reported for the Alternative Accountability subcommittee. She stated at the May State Board of Education (SBE) meeting, that all 10 indicators were discussed. Three of the indicators discussed included pre and post achievement. Ms. Barber stated the SBE was concerned about the selection of testing instruments. The SBE also asked, "Who had final approval over which indicators to choose?" The Alternative Accountability Subcommittee recommended that Alternative Accountability schools within the system initially choose two indicators in addition to the base and then the following year choose three indicators plus base (phase in system).

Ms. Barber stated that the Alternative Accountability subcommittee also discussed the inclusion of small schools into the main API system. For schools with 11-99 valid test scores, each would receive an asterisk next to their API scores indicating their small school status. Schools with below 11 valid test scores will participate in the Alternative Accountability system. To accommodate this Very Small School category, which number approximately 100 schools throughout the state, the Alternative Accountability subcommittee proposed developing a system whereby county superintendents provide verification of achievement similar to what they currently do for the nominees to the California School Recognition. The County Superintendents agreed to talk about participating in this type of system at their board meeting.

Lastly, Ms. Barber stated that field training on next year's Alternative Accountability System started last week.

The committee approved the recommendation to include two indicators plus base during 2001-2002 then move to three indicators plus base during 2002-2003. In addition, the committee approved the recommendation that county office personnel would visit schools with less than 11 valid scores. Both recommendations would be presented at a future SBE meeting.

General Davie reported that the Awards and Interventions subcommittee talked about alternative eligibility criteria for the Immediate Intervention/Underperforming Schools Program (II/USP) for schools that do not have either a 2000 base API or 2001 growth API. He presented four scenarios that could occur and the subcommittee recommendations for each.

Scenario #1 identified a school which has both the 2000 and 2001 API. This is the usual and desirable case. The subcommittee recommended the school be allowed to participate in II/USP.

Scenario #2, identified a school which has a 2000 API available but the 2001 API is missing. The subcommittee recommended the alternative criterion that the school is eligible for II/USP if it was eligible in 2000. However, it should be considered for voluntary participation and not conscripted because of insufficient numbers of volunteers.

Scenario #3, identified a school which is missing its 2000 API but has a 2001 API. The subcommittee recommended the following alternative criteria: 1) the school received an API in 1999, and was in the bottom half of the API distribution; 2) the school failed to meet double its 2000 API growth target from 1999 to 2001; and 3) the school did not receive an API in 1999 but its 2001 API was in the bottom half of the distribution.

Scenario #4, identified a school which does not have either a 2000 or a 2001 growth API. The subcommittee recommended against alternative criteria in this case as calculating an API for II/USP purposes only would comprise the integrity of the API.

After minor clarifying questions, the group agreed to approve all four subcommittee recommendations to the SBE. These recommendations will be sent to the July SBE meeting.

Mr. Davie turned the chair over to Ed Haertel.

Mr. Haertel made a presentation on integrating the California Standards-based Test for English-Language Arts into the API. He began his presentation by stating, "In 2001, we will include the ELA standards based test. The math standards based test might also be added. How do you add these new indicators into the API for next year, and how do we develop a model for adding indicators in future years? The following weighting factor scenarios are possibilities." He then provided a description of eight possible scenarios.

After lengthy explanation and discussion regarding all scenarios, the committee decided to recommend Scenario #1 or #6 at the 60% level to the SBE.

Public Comment: There was none.

Next Meeting: The next meeting of the PSAA Advisory Committee will be July 18, 2001, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., General Services Building, 1325 Room 1519, Sacramento, California.

Adjournment: Mr. Haertel adjourned the meeting at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Seabourne,  
Recording Secretary

